



Tapu'itea

...ina ia manino le folauga.

Tuesday
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OFFICIAL AMERICAN SAMOA GOVERNMENT WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

Issue 38



Pictured (left to right) are Captain Asiata, Speaker Matagi Ray Mailo McMoore, Governor Togiola, SGT Semeli Toilolo, SSG Ratusami Suapilimai, First Lt. Tuliloa Tuliloa, SGT Matthew Moana, Chief Procurement Officer La'au Seui and Captain Sau'i'a

MORE TOA O SAMOA RETURN HOME

Governor Togiola Tulafono joined well-wishers, on Wednesday, January 25th, at Tafuna Airport, to welcome home four more of our Toa o Samoa from Iraq, SGT Semeli Toilolo, SSG Ratusami Suapilimai, First Lt. Tuliloa Tuliloa, and SGT Matthew Moana. Unable to secure confirmed seats on Hawaiian Air in Honolulu, the four soldiers resorted to flying to Los Angeles where they flew on Air New Zealand's non-stop flight to Apia's Faleolo Airport to catch a Polynesian Air flight home. Thank you for protecting our freedom. Welcome home.

ASG RADIO PROGRAM

with: Governor Togiola Tulafono

Saturdays @ 7a.m.

on: Showers of Blessings-FM 104.7

Call 699-8123 or 699-8124

Nine ASCC Teachers Included In National "Who's Who"

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer

The American Samoa Community College (ASCC) recently received word that the 2005 edition of *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* includes nine of the college's instructors. Each year, *Who's Who Among America's Teachers* honors the most influential teachers across the nation, as nominated by students included in either *Who's Who Among America's High School Students* or *The National Dean's List*.

The distinguished group of ASCC educators in this year's *Who's Who* includes Randall Baker and Keseta Okenaisa Fauolo of Social Sciences; Fauofua Faatoafe of the Business Department; Tafaimamao Mamea of Disabilities; Music, Art & Drama chairperson Namulauulu Dr. Paul Pouesi; Michael Hansell and Joseph Stanislaus of the Science Department; Elvis Zodiacal of Criminal Justice; and Dr. Irene Helsham and Dr. Emilia Le'i of Student Services, both of whom also teach the class College Life Planning. Teachers Baker, Fauolo, Faatoafe, Mamea and Pouesi all have the distinction of being included the publication for the second year in a row.

ASCC President Dr. Adele Satele-Galea'i offered her congratulations to the college faculty included in the prestigious publication. "For a teacher, nothing makes the job more worthwhile than seeing students achieve," she said. "When one of our current or former students earns recognition on *The National Dean's List*, and chooses to acknowledge how an ASCC teacher has played a part in his or her success, that really justifies all of the hard work and long hours teachers put into their jobs."

Current ASCC students who join the Phi Theta Kappa honors society receive automatic enrollment in *The National Dean's List*. This in turn gives each of these students the option of nominating a teacher who has played an exceptional role in his/her educational development, for inclusion in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. Educational Communications Inc. in Austin, Texas publishes *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, *Who's Who Among America's High School Students* and *The National Dean's List*. For more information on *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*, visit the publication's web site at www.whoswho-teachers.com.

ASCC Recognizes Outstanding Employees

By James Kneubuhl, ASCC Press Officer



(L-R) Panisia Neueli, Ioapo Tauai and Sifagatogo Tuitasi

Ask a student to name the most important employees at the American Samoa Community College (ASCC), or any school for that matter, and you will most likely get the reply, "Teachers." While teachers definitely supply the heartbeat of a campus, a no less dedicated group of men and women work "behind the scenes" to keep a school functioning. ASCC recently paid tribute to these often overlooked professionals when President Dr. Adele-Satele-Galea'i and her staff announced the College's five Outstanding Employees of 2005.

Dr. Satele-Galea'i asked the ASCC Deans and Directors to each nominate a non-teaching member of their staff whom they felt had provided exemplary service to the college, along with a written recommendation for their chosen nominee. From the candidates, the President and her staff chose Land Grant Administrative Officer Mele Paaga; Assistant to the Dean of Academic Affairs Mikaele Etuale; Sifagatogo Tuitasi, the College's Registrar; Financial Aid Manager Ioapo Tauai; and Business Office staff member Panisia Neueli.

DPW REMEDIES FLOODING PROBLEM AT FOGAGOGO ROAD

By Robert King & Rapi Monotaga

The DPW Maintenance and Operation Division are excavating a section of Fogagogo road to construct a soakage pit to remedy flooding problems. The water level in this particular area, during heavy rains, has stalled many vehicles.

"We have for quite some time been discussing with the families involved in this project different ways to drain the problem – I'm just happy we're moving forward, and am very thankful to Samoan Affairs for their assistance in the negotiations," lauded Faleosina Voight, Deputy Director for DPW.

According to Voight, there were several options recommended by our engineers, but settled for a soakage pit because it was most feasible and cost effective. The pit will be 70 feet long by 15 feet wide by 15 feet deep.

"Drainage is a big problem in the Tafuna and Fogagogo areas; and it's not something we can fix overnight" explained Siva Gnaneswaran, senior civil DPW engineer. "But we are tackling one drainage concern at a time," he continued.

The project is expected to be completed in two months, if weather permits. The engineers and crew respectfully ask the public for their patience and assistance, and apologize for any inconvenience caused during the construction of this project.



Governor Togiola Tulafono resubmits American Samoa Medical Center Authority Credit (ASMCA) Facility bill

Governor Togiola Tulafono has again submitted the American Samoa Medical Center Authority (ASMCA) Credit Facility bill for the Legislature's review and issued this official statement regarding the resubmission:

"Due to a grave oversight on the part of my office, the ASMCA bill expired by operation of law. According to our Constitution, a bill must be acted upon within thirty days of the adjournment of the session in which it was passed. This last session adjourned on the 23rd of November, giving me up until the 23rd of December to sign the bill, or else the bill expires. There was a serious mistake in my office regarding the operative date by which the thirty-day clock begins to run. My final action on the bill was based on this eschewed time frame, which resulted in the expiration of the bill in accordance with the supreme law of the land.

I admit that we made a serious mistake in our calculation of days. However, I do not believe that anyone of my staff had set out to intentionally create an oversight. After countless hours spent on the credit facility bill, it is clear that my staff miscalculated the time of Fono adjournment and the date that I received the ASMCA credit facility bill in my office. This led to a final count that was over by five days.

To the distinguished senators and house members, as well as the people of American Samoa who may have been hurt by our oversight, I sincerely apologize.

So, now, in still making the right decision and looking out for the best interests of LBJ Hospital and the people of the Territory, I am resubmitting the credit facility bill to the Fono."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The **LBJ Tropical Medical Center** in the implementation of its cost reduction program wishes to inform the public that effective January 31, 2006, the following outpatient clinics will open from 8:00am to 3:00pm on Tuesdays to Fridays of each week:

Medical Clinic	Pediatric Clinic
OB/Gyn Clinic	Eye Clinic
ENT Clinic	Dental Clinic
Mental Health Clinic	Diabetic Clinic

The outpatient pharmacy will also be closed at 3:00pm from Tuesday to Friday of each week. All other clinics will be open 8:00am to 4:00pm on Mondays. The patient treatment hours for the Dialysis Clinic is unchanged and the Emergency Room will continue to operate 24 hours a day seven days a week. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and ask for your patience as we enter into these new hours of operations. Our Emergency Room is open 24 hours a day to take care of emergency cases and should a patient need to see a physician after the clinics are closed in the afternoons. These new hours of operations will continue until further notice.

Taufete'e John Faumuina
Chief Executive Officer

FA'ASALALAUGA FA'ALAU'ITELE

Tulaouna ia lau fa'afogaaga Samoa, ou paia fa'aleatunu'u, paia fa'ale malō ma paia fa'atalalelei, a'o lenei fa'asalalauga fa'alau'itele e mo le mamalu o le atunu'u, aemaise latou o lo'o fa'aogaina le Falema'i i Faga'alu mo talavai ma togafitiga o gasegase.

Ua iai se fuafuaga a le Pulega o le Falema'i, o le a amata i le aso 31 o Ianuari, tausaga nei (2006), o le a fa'aititia ai taimi e tatala ai potu talavai mo le mamalu o le atunu'u e tusa ma tulaga o tupe fa'aalu mo le Tausaga 2006. O talavai la nei e amata mai le valu (8:00am) i le taeao e o'o i le tolu (3:00pm) i le aoauli o aso lua e o'o i aso faraile o vaiaso ta'itasi:

- Talavai mo tagata matutua (Medical)
- Talavai mo tamaiti laiti (pediatric)
- Talavai mo tināma'itaga (OB/Gyn)
- Talavai mo taotoga (Surgical)
- Talavai mo gasegase o mata (eye)
- Talavai mo gasegase o taliga, isu ma fa'ai'I (ENT)
- Talavai mo gasegase o nifo (dental)
- Talavai mo gasegase o le mafaufau (mental health)
- Talavai mo gasegase o le suka (diabetic)

E fa'apena fo'i ona tapunia le faletalavai i le tolu i le aoauli (3:00pm) mai le aso lua i le aso faraile i vaiaso ta'itasi. O le'a tatala talavai umu i le valu i le taeao (8:00am) e o'o i le fa i le aoauli (4:00pm) i aso gafua e pei ona masani ai. E tumau pea taimi mo le talavai mo gasegase fa'amama toto ma fa'apena fo'i le potu mo esiteni e tatala i le luasefulufa itula o le aso, fitu aso o le vaiaso. E tatala pea le potu esiteni po'o le Emergency Room i le luasefulu itula i le aso aua esiteni ma gasegase e fia va'ai se foma'i pe a tapunia talavai i le aoauli. Fa'amalulu atu ona o se faigata e ono tupu mai ona o lenei suiga, ma e talosagaina lou onosa'i a'o fa'atinoina lenei suiga fou i taimi o talavai. O le a fa'aauau pea nei taimi fou o talavai vagana ua toe iai se isi fa'aaliga.

Taufete'e John Faumuina
Fa'atonusili o le Falema'i

HISTORICAL NOTES

By: Stan Sorenson
Historian - Office of the Governor

On January 25, 1926, the hurricane relief food given to American Samoa by the Navy Department (see entry for January 1, 1926) arrived in Pago Pago Harbor.

On January 25, 1942, Admiral William Frederick Halsey, Jr.'s carrier task force, after escorting the 2nd Marine Brigade to Tutuila, departed American Samoa to refuel at Howland Island, 1,000 miles to the northeast. Then, the group steamed to the Gilbert and Marshall Islands, and launched air strikes against Japanese bases there.

On January 25, 1942, Brigadier General Henry L. Larsen, Military Governor of American Samoa sent "Five Germans, one Japanese and [a] naturalized American, who was a Swede by birth" to the U.S. mainland for internment. These people had been in protective custody as potential enemy aliens. "Three Japanese and one German were kept in custody until 7 March, when they were released but kept under observation."

On January 25, 1998, in Super Bowl XXXIII, Denver Broncos' defensive tackle Ma'a Junior Tanuvasa became the ninth Samoan member of a Super Bowl team, and the tenth Samoan to play in a Super Bowl, as the Broncos defeated the Green Bay Packers, 31-24.

On January 26, 1956, the first official U.S. air mail was delivered to American Samoa.

On January 26, 1959, Captain MacGillivray Milne, 25th naval governor of American Samoa (January 20, 1936-June 3, 1938), passed away at the Oak Knoll Hospital in Oakland, California at age 77. Captain Milne was "a veteran of the Philippine campaign at the turn of the century, the Mexican campaign of 1914, and World Wars I and II." He was buried in Tenafly, New Jersey.

On January 26, 1962, the Governor of American Samoa, Hyrum Rex Lee, appointed an Employment Policy Officer and an assistant "in conformity with the Non-Discriminatory Employment Policy Program established by Executive Order 10590 and the Equal Employment Opportunity Program directed by Executive Order 10925."

On January 26, 1986, in Super Bowl XX at the Louisiana Superdome in New Orleans, New England Patriots running back Mosiula "Mosi" Tatupu of Honolulu, Hawaii (No. 30; born April 26, 1955; attended the University of Southern California) became the third Samoan to play on a Super Bowl team, and the second Samoan to play in a Super Bowl. Final score: Chicago Bears 46, New England Patriots 10.

On January 26, 1997, New England Patriots' nose tackle Pio Alike Sagapolutele (born 11/28/1969 in American Samoa) became the eighth Samoan member of a Super Bowl team, and the seventh Samoan to play in a Super Bowl. In Super Bowl XXXI, the Green Bay Packers defeated the Patriots, 35-21.

On January 27, 1837, future *Mau* leader Tuimaleali'ifano Siu was born in Western Samoa.

On January 27, 1920, John Morse Haydon, American Samoa's ninth appointed civilian governor, was born in Billings, Montana.

On January 27, 1927, the Catholic seminary at Moamoa, Upolu was blessed.

On January 27, 1943, six Douglas SBD-3 *Dauntless* dive bombers from VMSB-151 (Marine Corps Scout Bombing Squadron 151) and nine Grumman F4F-4 *Wildcat* fighters from VMF-441 (Marine Corps Fighter Squadron 441) left Tutuila to reinforce the Wallis Islands, which were part of the Samoan Defense Group.

On January 27, 1945, Captain Ralph Waldo Hungerford relieved Captain Allen Hobbs, and became American Samoa's 31st naval governor (until September 3, 1945).

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NOTICE OF INTENTION TO ADOPT OR AMEND RULES

Pursuant to American Samoa Code Annotated (ASCA) 4.1001 et. Seq., the **Development Bank of American Samoa (DBAS)** intends to adopt or amend its **Whistleblower Policy**.

Interested members of the public may review these documents and/or present their written comments on the same at the DBAS CEO's Office at the DBAS Building at Pago Pago, American Samoa from January 10, 2006. DBAS is normally open for business Mondays to Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. For further information, please contact Ms. Mary Malauulu at telephone number (684)633-4031.

Cross Connections – Illegal and Dangerous: Village Water Dilemma

Author: CDR Steve Anderson, P.E., USPHS

For many years, the people of American Samoa have relied on stream water, spring water, and roof catchment water for drinking, cooking, and cleaning. To facilitate the delivery of water to homes, villages built impoundments on the streams and installed piping systems to carry the water to individual homes, and each village had their own system(s). Some villages had more than one system. As the population of American Samoa grew, so did the demand for water. Moreover, the amount of unintended contamination of surface water also grew; waste from people and domestic animals both contribute to this contamination. New technologies and advances in science have discovered that untreated surface water causes many illnesses, many of which were previously unexplained. The Navy built the first government water system on Tutuila, but it was limited in scope and was never intended to provide water to the entire island. When the Navy left, the facilities were handed over to the local government who maintained, operated, and expanded the system. The Department Public Works was responsible for the system until 1988, when the American Samoa Power Authority (ASPA) took over operations for the public water system.

In the early 1990s the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) issued Administrative Orders to 19 villages still using village water systems for serving untreated surface water to customers. Since then, ASPA has provided treated water to all villages that received Administrative Orders except Fagali'i and Fagamalo. Plans are nearly completed and funding has been identified from FEMA to extend the ASPA water system to both these villages next year. However, Administrative Orders are still in place for Afono, Onenao, and Vatia, as there have not been enough connections to the ASPA system serving these villages.

Part of running a safe drinking water system is monitoring it for harmful bacteria. ASEPA and ASPA collect and test water samples for bacteria every month from each ASPA water system. And, since the government water system was placed into service, it has occasionally been plagued with the presence of harmful bacteria. And, it appears that the decision to keep the village water systems in service has caused contamination problems for the ASPA system because further investigation over the last several years has determined that a significant source of contamination is from cross connections with the village water systems. A cross connection is simply a piped connection between the village and ASPA systems allowing water to flow in both directions. This illegal practice allows untreated, dangerous village water to flow into the ASPA system and contaminate it with high levels of harmful bacteria. This contaminated water then continues to be distributed to other homes served by this ASPA system.

Although ASPA water is brought to the villages, some villages and individuals want to keep their own systems operating for many different reasons. They want an emergency supply of water in the event that the ASPA system goes down; they want to use the village water for washing and other non-potable purposes. In other cases, some residents don't believe the ASPA water is any safer than the village water, and don't want to pay for the ASPA water. However, all these reasons aside, keeping village water systems operating unintentionally puts all customers of the ASPA system at risk by allowing cross connections to be made between the two systems.

Untreated surface water, which is what village water systems are, has many bacteria, viruses, parasites, and pollutants that cause people to become ill. Some of these agents can cause death, especially in young children, and older or weakened people. Strong, young, healthy people will often get a bad case of diarrhea, have stomach cramps, develop a temperature, vomit, and become dehydrated, but they can return to health if they get medical attention; whereas young children, old, or weakened people can die from these same symptoms if not given immediate medical attention. Common diseases from untreated or contaminated water include: *cryptosporidium*, *giardia*, and other intestinal parasites; viral infections such as hepatitis; and infections caused by *leptospira*, *streptococci*, and *coliform*.

Recent Cross Connections Identified and Penalized

On December 8, 2005 harmful bacteria were discovered in the ASPA water system in Masefau by the ASEPA Laboratory staff. To make sure a mistake had not been made more samples were taken the next day and the presence of harmful bacteria was confirmed. On December 9, 2005 a "Boil Water Notice" was issued for all residents of Masefau, Masausi, and Sailele. The water for all these villages comes from the ASPA wells in Masefau. The water was not safe to drink. ASPA discovered the source of the contamination and eliminated the problem. On December 21, 2005 ASEPA Laboratory staff confirmed that the water was safe to drink and the "Boil Water Notice" was lifted.

Further investigation into the source of the harmful bacteria revealed that three (3) homes in Masefau had cross connections between the village water system and the ASPA water system. In this case water flowed from the Masefau system to the ASPA system. If a home is discovered to have a cross connection the penalties are:

1. You are disconnected from ASPA water.
2. You are fined \$150.
3. You have to pay \$50 reconnection fee to have ASPA water restored.

In the near future the fine will go up (possibly \$500 first offense) and the homeowner will be required to pay for the installation of a backflow prevention apparatus \$500 plus annual testing \$50) before ASPA water will be restored. Over \$1,000 for the first cross connection.

Masefau is not the only village to have illegal cross connections. Island wide in 2005 there were 15 illegal cross connections found. This represents a significant risk to the public health of the people of American Samoa and a significant cost to the homeowner.

ASEPA Recommendations

ASEPA recommends that all families in American Samoa use ASPA water for drinking, bathing, and cleaning. Showering in untreated village water is very dangerous as you can become infected by waterborne pathogens through your eyes, nose, mouth, and cuts in the skin. The agency also recommends complete abandonment of village water systems when ASPA water is supplied to a village. The only villages on Tutuila not yet served by the ASPA water system are Fagali'i and Fagamalo; all other villages are served by the ASPA water system. However, not all residents choose to connect to the ASPA water system. While it may cost more to connect to the ASPA water system, the water is treated, tested, and safe. For more information about this or other ASEPA water quality projects, please contact us at 633-2304.

ASEPA BEACH ADVISORY

The American Samoa Environmental Protection Agency (ASEPA) wishes to inform the public that on **Tuesday, January 24, 2006** the following recreational beaches were found to be contaminated with enterococci bacteria levels that exceed ASEPA Water Quality Standards:

Malota – Stream Mouth, Malota
Malota Beach (near Gurr land), Malota
Amanave Beach (across Church), Amanave
Asili Beach (across LMS Church, Asili)
Leone Pala (near bridge), Leone
Pala Spring (near tennis court), Nu'uuli
Amouli Beach (across health clinic), Amouli

Afono – Stream Mouth (adjacent cricket field), Afono
Vatia – Stream Mouth (2nd bridge), Vatia
Aua Stream Mouth (near bridge), Aua
Alega Stream Mouth, Alega
Masefau – Stream Mouth, Masefau
Alofau Stream (near 1st bridge, asasama), Alofau
Aoa – Stream Mouth, Aoa

The public should not swim, wade, or fish within 400 feet of these polluted beaches. This advisory is in effect until further sampling and laboratory analyses indicate that enterococci concentrations are within water quality standards.

Water that contains excessive concentrations of enterococci bacteria is correlated with swimming-associated gastrointestinal diseases. Enterococci bacteria reside in the intestines of warm-blooded animals. Their presence in water indicates contamination by human and/or animal wastes. Swimmers in polluted water are at risk for many waterborne diseases, some of which may cause serious illness.

Note: ASEPA laboratory monitors the water quality of 42 recreational beaches on Tutuila, the wharf in Aunu'u, and five beaches on Manu'a. Tutuila advisories are issued weekly. Aunu'u and Manu'a advisories are issued monthly. Advisories are issued when bacteria concentrations exceed levels determined safe for human exposure. Questions should be directed to the ASEPA Water Program at 633-2304.